

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BAMA KO 03710 032219Z

11

ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 A-01 SY-05 /015 W

----- 118007

R 031654Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY BAMA KO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2395

AINFO RUTAIJ/AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 4946

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS BAMA KO 3710

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ALOW, ML, PINS

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF POST DIFFERENTIAL

REF: A. A-3093, MAY 1, 1975; B. BAMA KO 1975

1. FOLLOWING IS A REVISION TO
SECTIONS 85 AND 86, "CRIME", OF THE POST DIFFERENTIAL
QUESTIONNAIRE SUBMITTED BY EMBASSY BAMA KO DECEMBER 1974.
REASON FOR SUBMISSION IS THAT THERE HAS BEEN A SHARP
INCREASE IN CRIME AND VIOLENCE SINCE PREVIOUS REPORT COMPLETED.

2. COMMENT: WHILE GUARDS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN EMPLOYED BY
AMERICAN FAMILIES, THERE IS NOW A SERIOUS DETERIORATION OF
PUBLIC SAFETY IN BAMA KO. THE PRESIDENT OF MALI SPOKE OPENLY
OF CRIME IN HIS INDEPENDENCE DAY MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF
SEPTEMBER 22, 1975. AND TWO DAYS LATER, THE OFFICIAL GOVERN-
MENT (AND ONLY) NEWSPAPER CARRIED AN ARTICLE, "BAMA KO IN
THE HANDS OF THEIVES", WARNING THAT A DANGEROUS
SERIES OF ROBBERIES AND HOLDUPS WERE TAKING PLACE
IN BAMA KO, SPECIFICALLY MENTIONING THE AREA WHERE
THE AMBASZADOR AND DCM LIVE. THIS NEWSPAPER DOES NOT
NORMALLY CARRY CRIME NEWS SINCE THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT
LIKE TO ADMIT THAT CRIMINAL ACTIVITY EXISTS UNDER ITS
AUSTERE MILITARY REGIME. FOR THE FIRST TIME, WE ARE
BEING WARNED BY MALIAN FRIENDS NOT TO DRIVE AROUND
BAMA KO AFTER MIDNIGHC. IT IS MY CONCLUSION THAT
CRIME IS NOW AT A LEVEL WHICH FREQUENTLY INVOLVES
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BAMA KO 03710 032219Z

VIOLENCE AND UNUSUAL PRECAUTIONARY BEHAVIOR IS REQUIRED.

3. EXAMPLES: THE MOST SERIOUS INCIDENT WAS THE DAYLIGHT BEATING OF THE WIFE OF AN AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN LAST MAY. SHE WAS RESCUED WITH DIFFICULTY BY A GROUP OF AMERICAN PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS WHO WITNESSED THE ASSULT. ON SEPTEMBER 27 THE WIFE OF AN AID EMGTOYEE, WHO WAS AWAY ON A FIELD TRIP, SURPRISED A BURGLAR AT 4:00 A.M. INSIDE HER HOME. HE DROPPED A KNIFE AND FLED. ON SEPTEMBER 29 AND 30, A GROUP OF THREE MEN BRAZENLY CASED THE AMBASSADOR'S AND DCM'S RESIDENCES IN BROAD DAYLIGHT. THEY WERE STOPPED ON THE VERANDA OF THE DCM'S RESIDENCE BUT OFFERED A PLAUSIBLE EXCUSE TO A SERVANT AND WERE PERMITTED TO LEAVE. POLICE ARE SEARCHING FOR THE LEADER, A KNOWN CRIMINAL WANTED FOR ROBBERY. ON OCTOBER 1 THE EMBASSY'S PART-TIME, LOCAL HIRE AMERICAN NURSE AND HER HUSBAND WERE ROBBED OF \$200 AND HIS PASSPORT. THE SAME DAY THE PAO'S HOUSEBOY FOUND A NEIGHBOR, A GUINEAN BUSINESSMAN, WITH HIS THROAT CUT AND HIS POCKETS EMPTIED. SINCE JULY 1 THERE HAVE BEEN 14 SEPARATE ROBBERIES OR ATTEMPTED ROBBERIES WITHIN THE EMBASSY COMMUNITY OF ABOUT 25 HOMES.

4. THE POLICE ARE AGGRESSIVE AND ONCE THEY HAVE A SUSPECT THEY USUALLY BEAT HIM UNTIL HE CONFESSES. THE RESULTS, HOWEVER, ARE QUESTIONABLE.

5. INSURANCE CLAIMS: MOST ITEMS TAKEN FROM RESIDENCES ARE GOVERNMENT PROPERTY AND PRIVATE INSURANCE CLAIMS HAVE NOT BEEN FILED. OTHER LOSSES ARE SO RECENT THAT CLAIMS ARE STILL BEING PREPARED.

6. ANALYSIS: A COMBINATION OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS ACCOUNTS FOR THIS SUDDEN AND ALARMING RISE IN VIOLENT CRIME IN WHAT HAD BEEN A RELATIVELY SAFE CITY. AT ALL LEVELS, WE AND THE REST OF THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY ARE AWARE OF A GROWING DESPAIR AMONG THE MALIANS OVER WHAT THEY PERCIEVE TO BE THE HELPLESSNESS OF THEIR SITUATION, WHICH IS LEADING TO POLITICAL UNREST (SEPTTEL FOLLOWS). THE REGIME'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS PROBABLY LIE AT THE ROOT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BAMAKO 03710 032219Z

OF THIS UNREST. INCREASING INFLATION IN THE CITIES AND TOWNS IS ERODING PURCHASING POWER WHICH PROVIDES AN INCENTIVE TO MAKE UP LOST WAGES THROUGH CRIME.

7. THERE IS ALSO AN APPARENT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF NON-MALIAN AFRICANS IN BAMAKO WHO LIVE BY THEIR WITS. THE MALIANS, IMPLAUSIBLY, BLAME THEM FOR ALL

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.

8. THE INCREASE IN CRIME AND VIOLENCE HERE HAS
BEEN SUDDEN. I MUST ALSO ADD THAT FEAR IS SOMETHING
WE ALL HAVE TO LIVE WITH IN BAMAKO. THERE ARE LURID,
BUT UNCONFIRMED, REPORTS OF OTHER MURDERS, RAPES AND
MUGGINGS. I TRUST THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONSIDER THE
ABOVE IN DETERMINING WHETHER OR NOT THIS NEW SITUATION
JUSTIFIES A REVISION OF THE POST DIFFERENTIAL.
MCGUIRE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, CRIME DATA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BAMAKO03710
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750344-1070
From: BAMAKO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751085/aaaacxwg.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OPR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BAMAKO 1975
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 OCT 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 OCT 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF POST DIFFERENTIAL
TAGS: ALOW, PINS, SOCI, ML
To: STATE PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006